



New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association, Inc.

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TO: NYSOPBA Chief Sector Stewards –
Southern Region and Mid-Hudson Region

FROM: Sharon Smith, Health Benefits Specialist

DATE: May 23, 2019

RE: NYU Langone Health Hospitals' Participation in The
Empire Plan Provider Network May Expire July 1, 2019

This memo is notification that recent contract negotiations with NYU Langone Health Hospitals have been unsuccessful to date; therefore, unless further negotiations lead to a contract agreement, this hospital network will be considered out-of-network for services rendered on or after July 1, 2019. Hospitals include Tisch Hospital, Rusk Rehabilitation at NYU Langone Ambulatory Care Center, NYU Winthrop Hospital, NYU Langone Orthopedic Hospital, NYU Langone Hospital-Brooklyn and NYU Langone Brooklyn Endoscopy and Ambulatory Surgery Center. Letters notifying affected members (those living within 30 miles of one of these facilities and/or those who have received services at one of these facilities within the past year) will be issued on June 1st.

Should negotiations fail, the following services will be the **only** services paid on an in-network basis:

- Cases of emergency
- If no in-network hospital exists that can provide the services required
- If a network hospital is not available within a 30-mile radius from member's home
- For continuation of care for pregnancy or health risk
- For any services that were previously preauthorized

Except for the circumstances above, all services will be covered on an out-of-network basis, as follows:

Covered services (other than those above) shall be reimbursed at 90 percent of charges and the member will be responsible for the additional 10 percent of the billed charges up to the annual coinsurance maximum amount. The annual coinsurance maximum amount on July 1st is \$3,750 for enrollee, \$3,750 for enrolled spouse/domestic partner and \$3,750 for all enrolled dependent children combined for non-network hospital services. For members in titles equated to salary grade level six or below, the coinsurance maximum will be \$1,875.

Due to network termination of these facilities, the following may also occur:

- patients may be refused treatment for non-emergency services or elective treatment at any of these facilities;
- although these facilities cannot refuse emergency treatment to a patient, once the patient is stabilized, they might choose to transfer the patient to another facility;
- patients may be required to make payment up front, before services are rendered at any of these facilities;
- patients may be required to sign a guarantee of payment before receiving services, which may include an outline of a payment schedule, as well as interest that can be charged on any outstanding balance; and
- these facilities will no longer be required to bill Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield directly so enrollees may be responsible for filing claims to obtain reimbursement.

Therefore, due to the out-of-pocket costs members will incur using one of these NYU Langone facilities, members seeking services should utilize a participating hospital. A list of alternative in-network facilities, is below:

Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center – Fulton, Bronx, NY
Bellevue Hospital Center, New York, NY
Beth Israel Medical Center – Petrie, New York, NY
Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center – Concourse Division, Bronx, NY
Brookdale Hospital Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY
Brooklyn Hospital Center – Brooklyn Division, Brooklyn, NY
Calvary Hospital, Bronx, NY
Coney Island Hospital, Brooklyn, NY
Elmhurst Hospital Center, Queens, NY
Flushing Hospital Medical Center, Queens, NY
Glen Cove Hospital, Glen Cove, NY
Harlem Hospital Center, New York, NY
Jacobi Medical Center, Bronx, NY
Jamaica Hospital, Queens, NY
Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY
Lenox Hill Hospital, New York, NY
Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New Hyde Park, NY
Long Island Jewish Medical Center, Queens, NY
Long Island Jewish Medical Center – Valley Stream, Valley Stream, NY
Mercy Medical Center, Rockville Centre, NY

Metropolitan Hospital Center, New York, NY
Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY
Mount Sinai Hospital of Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY
Mount Sinai Hospital of Queens, Long Island City, NY
Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York, NY
Nassau University Medical Center, East Meadow, NY
New York Community Hospital of Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY
New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, New York, NY
New York Hospital Medical Center of Queens, Queens, NY
New York Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn, NY
New York Presbyterian Hospital (168th St.), New York, NY
New York Presbyterian Hospital (68th St.), New York, NY
New York Presbyterian Hospital (Broadway), New York, NY
North Central Bronx Hospital, Bronx, NY
North Shore Hospital at Manhasset, Manhasset, NY
North Shore University Hospital at Syosset, Syosset, NY
Nyack Hospital, Nyack, NY
Phelps Memorial Hospital Center, Sleepy Hollow, NY
Queens Hospital Center, Queens, NY
Richmond University Medical Center, Staten Island, NY
South Nassau Communities Hospital, Oceanside, NY
St. Barnabas Hospital, Bronx, NY
St. Francis Hospital, Roslyn, NY
St. Johns Episcopal Hospital S. Shore, Queens, NY
St. Johns Riverside Hospital, Yonkers, NY
St. Josephs Medical Center, Yonkers, NY
St. Lukes Roosevelt Hospital, New York, NY
St. Vincents Hospital Westchester, Harrison, NY
Staten Island University Hospital North, Staten Island, NY
SUNY Downstate Medical Center at Lich, Brooklyn, NY
University Hospital of Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY
Victory Memorial Hospital, Brooklyn, NY
Westchester Medical Center Valhalla Campus, Valhalla, NY
White Plains Hospital Center, White Plains, NY
Woodhull Hospital, Brooklyn, NY
Wyckoff Heights Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY

Members who utilize an NYU Langone facility beginning 7/1/19 will be issued payment for covered services directly and it will be that member's responsibility to pay the facility.

Members currently receiving services from an NYU Langone facility or who are scheduled for treatment at one of these facilities should contact Empire BlueCross BlueShield toll free at 1-800-495-9323 (Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 am and 5:00 pm). Customer service representatives will be happy to answer any questions they may have, as well assist them in selecting a facility that is in-network.

May 23, 2019
Page 4

Please note that these changes have no impact on the Medical/Surgical Program administered by United HealthCare. However, remember that paid-in-full services for anesthesia, radiology or pathology are only available at in-network hospitals. Members may continue to use the same Empire Plan participating physicians or seek services of non-participating providers using the Basic Medical benefits. If a member is using a provider who has admitting privileges at both an NYU Langone facility and other in-network hospitals, that member should ask the provider for admission into the in-network hospital instead of admission to one of the NYU Langone facilities.

Please share this information with your membership; and I will keep you informed of ongoing negotiations.

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cc: NYSCOPBA Executive Board
NYSCOPBA Jt. Committee of Health Benefits